

**COMMUNISM IS TREASON!**

FIGHT IT WITH . . .

# Common Sense

AMERICA'S NEWSPAPER AGAINST COMMUNISM

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"The Truth, the whole  
Truth and nothing but  
the Truth!"

Without fear or favor.

Charles W. McElroy  
FOUNDER AND EDITOR

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## CONFUSION BREEDS DEFEAT FATHER CRONIN SPEAKS FOR HIMSELF

Here is a highly-educated Priest with a good vocabulary who has read many books, hence believes himself to be an authority on communism. His education qualifies him to write interesting articles on what he knows about communism. Apparently, he knows little about "fronts," or fears to become unpopular.

The seventeen countries taken over by communism had only the Communist Party with which to deal. In the United States, we have a different situation.

When **Common Sense** began publishing, there were approximately 2,000 communist fronts in the U.S. Today authorities agree there are roughly 200, a number of which have infiltrated the government. Some fronts were consolidated; others were disbanded because of exposure, but the remaining 200 are influential, hard-core fronts. Fr. Cronin, like some other honest authorities, fears to oppose these fronts, because they have been set up by "so-called" Jews, who are regarded as sacred monkeys. Retaliation by the Jews prevents many from examining the origin of communism.

The public has been left under the impression that Fr. Cronin speaks for the Catholic Church. **HE DOES NOT.** He has confused and weakened the opposition to the red plague which is sweeping the earth.

Forty-three million Catholics in the United States, if correctly informed, could stop communism in sixty days.

### FATHER CRONIN SPEAKS FOR HIMSELF

Republished from—

Los Angeles Tidings, March 9, 1962

It is one of the unhappy trends of our tense times that long conclusions are drawn from short assumptions. Straws in the wind suddenly loom up as haystacks; generalizations unexpected blossom in parched and ill-sown fields.

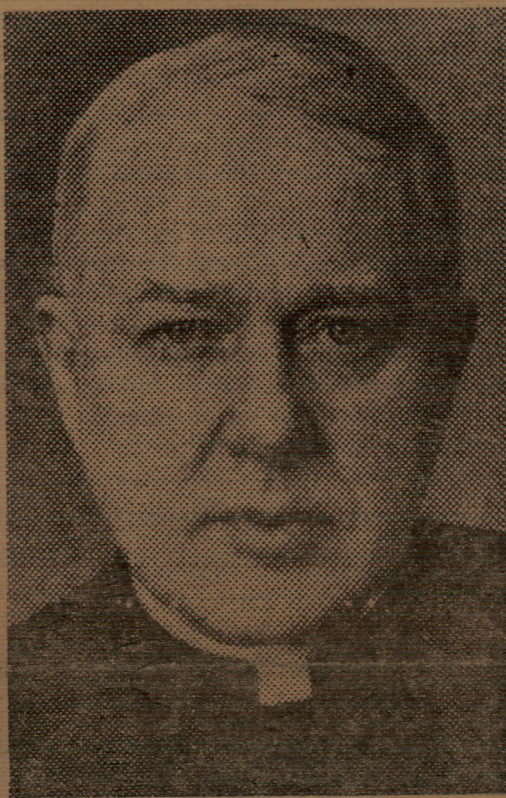
Such a pattern, we believe, is reflected in this week's furore involving **Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S.** Fr. Cronin is assistant director of the Social Action Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference. He has authored a booklet entitled: **Communism: Threat To Freedom.**

In a Washington news conference held last Thursday to announce publication of the booklet, Fr. Cronin took occasion to divulge some of its contents, and, in response to questions, made application of these contents to existing movements in the United States.

The contents of Fr. Cronin's booklet, as well as his application of them, represent his personal views on the nature of the Communist threat and on the nature of methods of combatting that threat. Being his personal views, he has a right to express them.

There are others of equal authority and repute who disagree with these views. This certainly is their right, also. Provided that

### HE CONFUSES AND WEAKENS THE WILL TO RESIST



Rev. John F. Cronin, S.S.

both sides avoid the use of opprobrious labels, such is a healthy condition of intellectual ferment among free men.

However, such healthy debate becomes unhealthily weighted when an individual's viewpoint becomes clothed with an authority not his own. Unfortunately, this seems to have occurred in this particular case.

Newspaper reports on Fr. Cronin's remarks at his news conference gave the impression that he was speaking with the authority of the Catholic Bishops of this Country. This is a very long conclusion indeed, one of those generalizations which, as we mentioned, have a tendency to blossom in an ill-sown field.

The Catholic Bishops of the United States, speaking as a body, traditionally set forth their views on current issues in a lengthy statement issued at their annual meeting each November. This statement bears the signatures of the members of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. **Fr. Cronin's booklet does not bear these signatures.**

We refuse to believe that Fr. Cronin would deliberately foster the impression that he was voicing an official policy and viewpoint in the name of the American Hierarchy. As a matter of fact, we are reliably informed that Fr. Cronin, subsequent to published reports of his news conference, definitely repudiated in writing any such impression as to his position. It is regrettable that this repudiation was not made more widely known.

Lenin said: "For every communist we have ten others willing and able to do their work."

### Fr. Cronin's "Extremists"

Republished from **THE WANDERER**  
National Catholic Weekly, St. Paul, Minn.

By Dr. J. Lorac

A Front Page display in the New York Times of March 2nd, 1962 beamingly announced the publication of a pamphlet by the National Catholic Welfare Conference against so-called "extremists of the Right." Although the release opens with the words: "The CATHOLIC CHURCH began a national campaign today, etc.," it emerges from the body of the piece that the brochure in question is authored by Fr. John F. Cronin, "a nationally recognized expert on the Communist movement for twenty years." This is of course, the kind of slanted and distorted presentation of facts so often indulged in by the Times. Fr. Cronin, I am sure, will be the first to admit that he does not speak for the "Catholic Church" anymore than I do. So much for the authorship of the pamphlet.

Who are the "extremists" attacked by Fr. Cronin? Judging from the release, "extremists" are those who frown on forced unionism; who criticize foreign aid to Communist and Socialist countries; who point to the failures of the United Nations; who fear that the Federal Government is leading the country to Socialism; who believe that the danger of Communism is more internal than external, etc. If this be so, then we must conclude that all Conservatives, including many prominent members of the Catholic Hierarchy, are "extremists" who should be denounced as "dishonest and divisive"; people who "sow distrust in our nation at a time when national unity is imperative", crackpots who "weaken our democracy" and paralyze American diplomacy." I submit that, although these and similar sweeping accusations appear in the pamphlet published by the NCWC, they are silly and preposterous just the same. Incidentally, was it not this same NCWC whose "experts" tried to sell us Fidel Castro as a well-meaning "social reformer" against the warnings of **THE WANDERER**, **The Tablet**, **Human Events**, and **American Opinion**?

In fairness to Fr. Cronin, it must be granted that he does reflect the views and fears of many Catholic intellectuals of unquestioned sincerity and patriotism. But the point is—and it bears repetition—that he does not represent the teaching authority of the Catholic Church, the Times to the contrary notwithstanding. For example he surely does not speak for **Cardinal McIntyre**, whose repeated and timely warnings about the dangers of UNESCO and similar Liberal pets are well known to all. Fr. Cronin surely does not speak for **Cardinal Spellman**, who, on December 10th, 1961, urged "all Americans to **INTENSIFY** their anti-communist programs" because we are now experiencing the Soviets' near-to-final chapter in world conquest. Fr. Cronin surely does not